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IT IS MATERIALIZING.
One of the first things required of the Rapid Transit Commissioners by the act concerning that method of transportation is that they shall state whether the city needs it or not. The four Commissioners who met yesterday answered this affirmatively in about half a second.

Another requirement of the Rapid Transit act is that a working plan for it and a company organized to undertake it shall both be perfected within ninety days after the Board has been organized. This clause will put the Commissioners on their mettle, for it leaves no time for dawdling over the matter.

The Commissioners have decided to have a meeting for the public on the afternoon of the 15th of this month in Stenway Hall, when they will hear suggestions from any citizen in regard to the location of the route or the plans for construction.

This is taking hold of the thing in the right way. Energy, prudence and decision are the qualities looked for in the Commissioners. It is no bagatelle to have the line in New York. The office of a Commissioner is no sinecure. Happily, the gentlemen charged with setting this great undertaking on foot are endowed with the brain and stamina which should lead to a felicitous accomplishment of their purpose.

MR. ASTOR'S ENGAGEMENT.
Again has Dame Rumor plighted the troth of one of our most eligible bachelors to the fair Miss Willing, of Philadelphia. The report has broken out like a rash two or three times before. These several times it has reared its beautiful head only to shrivel almost as soon as the wondrous beauty of such an alliance was seen and marvelled at.

Experience seems to prove that any man can marry. Some women will take him. But in the case of "JACKY" ASTOR the sentiment seems to prevail that any woman capable of entering into the bands of wedlock would jump at him.

The subject is one almost as momentous and embarrassing as that of whether "JACKY" means is Miss Astor, or only Mrs. WILLIAM ASTOR. It brings out all the truly democratic sentiment of our republican society. We are a great and simple people.

CONJUGAL DEVOTION.
The husband of the woman whose scalp was torn from her head has gladly offered his cuticle for repairing certain ravages which the accident has left in the skin of his wife. He gladly consents to having large patches of epidermis transferred from his arms and legs to the cranium of the partner of his joys.

This is an example which wives may hold up to their husbands as a proof of what matrimony may be in its perfect and beautiful flower. It is not often that the marital contract is carried out with such severe literalness in the "flesh of thy flesh" condition.

May the wife be duly proud of her borrowed skin. It should be more precious to her than "patens of bright gold." It represents most practically a loyal, generous love on the part of her husband.

EUROPEAN WEATHER.
We need not complain of our Winter when we read the reports of transatlantic cold and snow and ice. Europe is in the grip of a merciless Winter as it has known for years. Several instances are recorded of persons freezing to death. Vessels are ice-bound in the ports and the coasts are stiff with the frozen element. Everywhere there is a great suffering. What makes it worse is that in several of these countries the artificial means of combating severity of temperature are woefully deficient. We can really congratulate ourselves on the way we are let off.

BRAVO!
The Park authorities have done two good things. They have decided to allow skaters the use of the skating area in Central Park until 11 o'clock in the evening. This is a good thing. The other is that they considered the request of THE EVENING WORLD that this should be accorded the people, and granted it with a swiftness of compliance that was breathlessly delightful.

Such expeditiousness argues good judgment and a kindly interest in the people which is most creditable to the Park authorities.

One Governor is a very usual and proper functionary of a full-fledged State. When there becomes more than one such officer to a single State, Nebraska, with an Indian war threatening her on the one hand, has three claimants for the Executive office quarrelling on the other. It is not a pleasant spectacle.

THE WAYS OF WOMAN FAIR.
Fads, Fashions and Fancies That Delight the Gentler Sex.
Black Silk Gowns Cheap and Elegant—Crepe Lisse Handkerchiefs Are Now the Rage—A Novelty in Fans—Something New in Black Capotes.

Black silk gowns are economical as well as stylish made with a yoke and sleeves of some colored cloth, such as heliotrope or bottle green, or of a soft plaid coming white and heliotrope or green.

Crepe Lisse Handkerchiefs are now the rage. A novelty in Fans—Something New in Black Capotes.

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SAVED.
(From Jack.)
A Cry—Nan (overboard!)
A Leading Part.
(From Judge.)
Cherry Literature—It's all very well to make fun of the English sticks, but they have their uses, bah Jove!

THE THEATRES NEXT WEEK.
Denman Thompson Reappears as "Josh Whitcomb" Monday Night.

A New Irish Drama and Many Good Old Favorites.
"The Old Homestead" will be played for the last time at the Academy of Music to-night, and on Monday it will be succeeded by "Josh Whitcomb," the play that first made Denman Thompson the prominence that he has maintained ever since.

"Josh Whitcomb" will be put upon the stage in a very handsome manner, and some new people have been engaged for the production. Mr. Thompson, himself, says that he has made more money with "Josh Whitcomb" than with "The Old Homestead."

A new Irish drama entitled "An Irishman's Love" will be presented at R. R. Jacobs Theatre Monday night. It is the work of a young Philadelphia journalist, and is said to be among the best of its kind.

Miss Rosina Vokas and her admirable company will continue to present Sydney Grundy's comedy "The Silver Shield" during the coming week at the Madison Square Theatre.

As "Amie Black" will be presented at the New Grand Central Theatre, and as "The Silver Shield" is so popular, it is probable that the house will be full.

"The Silver Shield" is a play of high quality, and is well adapted to the stage. It is a story of a young man's love for a girl who is the daughter of a nobleman.

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HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.
HENRY VINCENT OF JERSEY CITY, TELLS A STORY WITH A PLAIN MORAL.

He Tells How He Was Rescued from a Life of Misery and Temptation by Doctors Coy and Wildman, and Gives a New Lease of Life—\$5 Per Month Till Feb. 1.

An abundance of testimony has been submitted to the Board of Health by Henry Vincent, a man of about 30 years of age, who has been suffering from a life of misery and temptation.

He tells how he was rescued from a life of misery and temptation by Doctors Coy and Wildman, and gives a new lease of life—\$5 per month till Feb. 1.

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